Please amend the above-identified patent application, without prejudice, as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

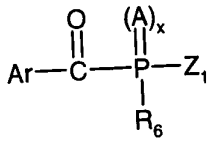
IN THE CLAIMS:

**Amend** claims 6 and 12 as follows:

6. (amended) A method for the preparation of mono- or bisacylphosphines, mono- or bisacylphosphine oxides or mono- or bisacylphosphine sulfides comprising reacting a compound of formula I according to claim 1.

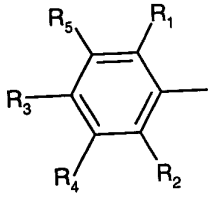
12. (amended) A photocurable composition comprising

(a) at least one ethylenically unsaturated photopolymerizable compound and

(b) at least one compound of the formula II according to claim 2 or at least one compound according to formula III  (III), in which

**A** is O or S;

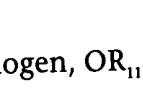
**x** is 0 or 1;

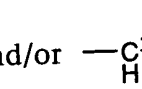
**Ar** is a group  ; or Ar is cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, naphthyl, anthracyl, biphenylyl or an O-, S- or N-containing 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring, where the radicals cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, naphthyl, anthracyl, biphenylyl and 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring are unsubstituted or substituted by halogen, $C_1$-$C_4$alkyl and/or $C_1$-$C_4$alkoxy;

$R_1$ and $R_2$ independently of one another are $C_1$-$C_{20}$alkyl, $OR_{11}$, $CF_3$ or halogen;

$R_3$, $R_4$ and $R_5$ independently of one another are hydrogen, $C_1$-$C_{20}$alkyl, $OR_{11}$ or halogen;

or in each case two of the radicals $R_1$, $R_2$, $R_3$, $R_4$ and $R_5$ together form $C_1$-$C_{20}$alkylene which can be interrupted by O, S or $-NR_{14}$;

$R_6$ is $C_1$-$C_{24}$alkyl, unsubstituted or substituted by $C_5$-$C_{24}$cycloalkenyl, phenyl, CN, $C(O)R_{11}$, $C(O)OR_{11}$, $C(O)N(R_{14})_2$, $OC(O)R_{11}$, $OC(O)OR_{11}$, $N(R_{14})C(O)N(R_{14})$, $OC(O)NR_{14}$, $N(R_{14})C(O)OR_{11}$, cycloalkyl, halogen, $OR_{11}$, $SR_{11}$, $N(R_{12})(R_{13})$ or  ;

$C_2$-$C_{24}$alkyl which is interrupted once or more than once by nonconsecutive O, S or $NR_{14}$ and which is unsubstituted or substituted by phenyl, $OR_{11}$, $SR_{11}$, $N(R_{12})(R_{13})$, CN, $C(O)R_{11}$, $C(O)OR_{11}$, $C(O)N(R_{14})_2$ and/or  ;

$C_2$-$C_{24}$alkenyl which is uninterrupted or interrupted once or more than once by nonconsecutive O, S or $NR_{14}$ and which is unsubstituted or substituted by $OR_{11}$, $SR_{11}$ or $N(R_{12})(R_{13})$;

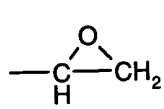
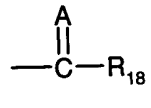
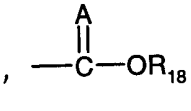
$C_5$-$C_{24}$cycloalkenyl which is uninterrupted or interrupted once or more than once by non-consecutive O, S or $NR_{14}$ and which is unsubstituted or substituted by $OR_{11}$, $SR_{11}$ or $N(R_{12})(R_{13})$;

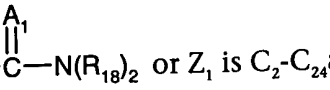
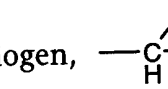
$C_7$-$C_{24}$arylalkyl which is unsubstituted or substituted on the aryl group by $C_1$-$C_{12}$alkyl, $C_1$-$C_{12}$alkoxy or halogen;

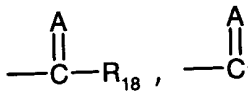
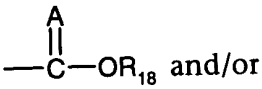
$C_4$-$C_{24}$cycloalkyl which is uninterrupted or interrupted once or more than once by O, S and/or $NR_{14}$ and which is unsubstituted or substituted by $OR_{11}$, $SR_{11}$ or $N(R_{12})(R_{13})$; or $C_8$-$C_{24}$arylcycloalkyl or $C_8$-$C_{24}$arylcycloalkenyl;

$R_{11}$ is H, $C_1$-$C_{20}$alkyl, $C_2$-$C_{20}$alkenyl, $C_3$-$C_8$cycloalkyl, phenyl, benzyl or $C_2$-$C_{20}$alkyl which is interrupted once or more than once by nonconsecutive O atoms and which is unsubstituted or substituted by OH and/or SH;

$R_{12}$ and $R_{13}$ independently of one another are hydrogen, $C_1$-$C_{20}$alkyl, $C_3$-$C_8$cycloalkyl, phenyl, benzyl or $C_2$-$C_{20}$alkyl, which is interrupted once or more than once by O or S and which is unsubstituted or substituted by OH and/or SH; or $R_{12}$ and $R_{13}$ together are $C_3$-$C_5$alkylene which is uninterrupted or interrupted by O, S or $NR_{14}$;

$Z_1$ is $C_1$-$C_{24}$alkyl, which is unsubstituted or substituted once or more than once by $OR_{15}$, $SR_{15}$, $N(R_{16})(R_{17})$, phenyl, halogen, CN, -N=C=A,  ,  , 

and/or  or $Z_1$ is $C_2$-$C_{24}$alkyl which is interrupted once or more than once by O, S or $NR_{14}$ and which can be substituted by $OR_{15}$, $SR_{15}$, $N(R_{16})(R_{17})$, phenyl, halogen,  ,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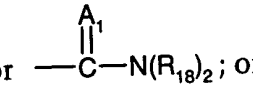
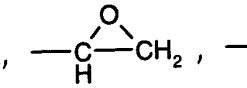
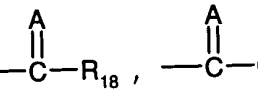
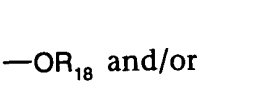

; or $Z_1$ is $C_1$-$C_{24}$alkoxy, which is substituted once or more than once by phenyl, CN, -N=C=A,



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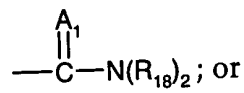
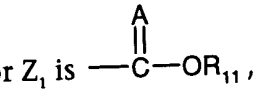
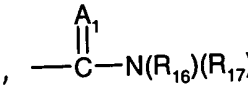
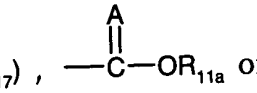

; or $Z_1$ is



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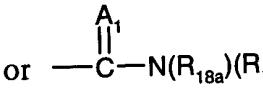
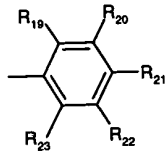

; or $Z_1$ is unsubstituted $C_3$-$C_{24}$cycloalkyl or $C_3$-$C_{24}$cycloalkyl substituted by $C_1$-$C_{20}$alkyl, $OR_{11}$, $CF_3$ or halogen; unsubstituted $C_2$-$C_{24}$alkenyl or $C_2$-$C_{24}$alkenyl substituted by $C_6$-$C_{12}$aryl, CN, $(CO)OR_{15}$ or $(CO)N(R_{18})_2$; or $Z_1$ is $C_3$-$C_{24}$cycloalkenyl or is one of the radicals

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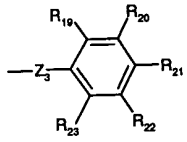
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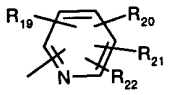
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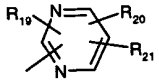
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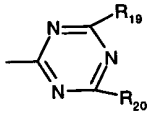
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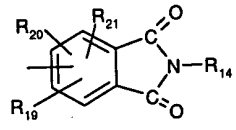
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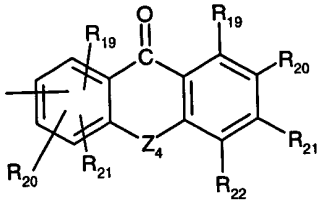
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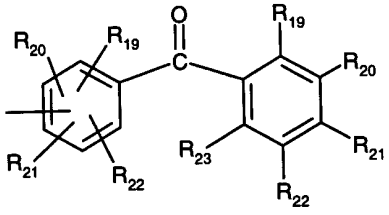
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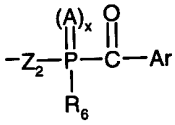
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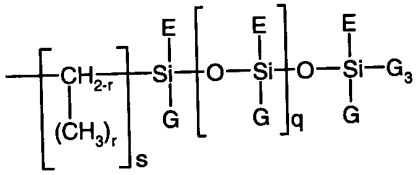
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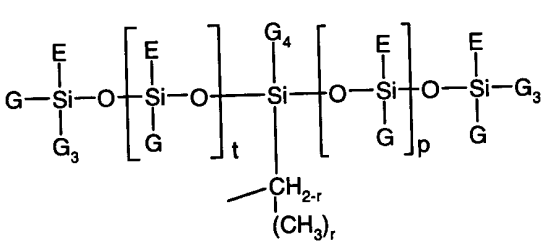
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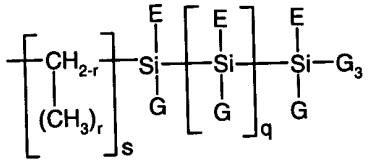
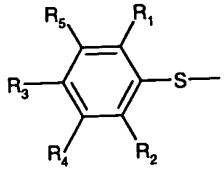
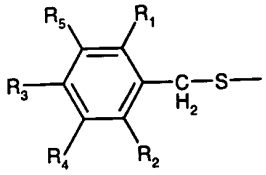
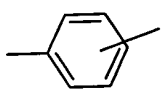
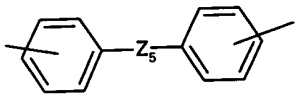
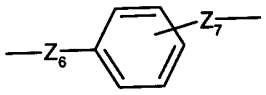

(t),

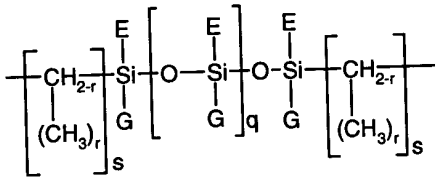

(v) or 
(w); or $Z_1$ is $C_1$-$C_{24}$alkylthio, in which the alkyl radical is uninterrupted or interrupted once or more than once by nonconsecutive O or S, and is unsubstituted or substituted by $OR_{15}$, $SR_{15}$ and/or halogen; with the proviso that $Z_1$ and $R_6$ are not identical;

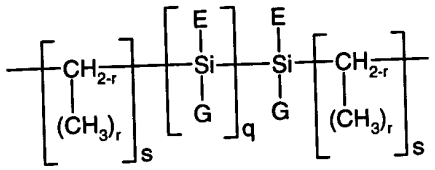
$A_1$ is O, S or $NR_{18a}$;

$Z_2$ is $C_1$-$C_{24}$alkylene; $C_2$-$C_{24}$alkylene interrupted once or more than once by O, S or $NR_{14}$; $C_2$-$C_{24}$alkenylene; $C_2$-$C_{24}$alkenylene interrupted once or more than once by O, S or $NR_{14}$; $C_3$-$C_{24}$cycloalkylene; $C_3$-$C_{24}$cycloalkylene interrupted once or more than once by O, S or $NR_{14}$; $C_3$-$C_{24}$cycloalkylene;$C_3$-$C_{24}$cycloalkenylene interrupted once or more than once by O, S or $NR_{14}$; where the radicals $C_1$-$C_{24}$alkylene, $C_2$-$C_{24}$alkylene, $C_2$-$C_{24}$alkenylene, $C_3$-$C_{24}$cycloalkylene and $C_3$-$C_{24}$cycloalkenylene are unsubstituted or are substituted by $OR_{11}$, $SR_{11}$, $N(R_{12})(R_{13})$ and/or halogen;

or $Z_2$ is one of the radicals  , 

or  , where these radicals are unsubstituted or are substituted on the aromatic by $C_1$-$C_{20}$alkyl; $C_2$-$C_{20}$alkyl which is interrupted once or more than once by nonconsecutive O atoms and which is unsubstituted or substituted by OH and/or SH; $OR_{11}$, $SR_{11}$, $N(R_{12})(R_{13})$, phenyl, halogen, $NO_2$, CN, (CO)-$OR_{11}$, (CO)-$R_{11}$, (CO)-$N(R_{12})(R_{13})$, $SO_2R_{24}$, $OSO_2R_{24}$, $CF_3$ and/or $CCl_3$;

or $Z_2$ is a group  (r) or



(u);

$Z_3$ is $CH_2$, CH(OH), $CH(CH_3)$ or $C(CH_3)_2$ ;

$Z_4$ is S, O, $CH_2$, C=O, $NR_{14}$ or a direct bond;

$Z_5$ is S, O, $CH_2$, $CHCH_3$, $C(CH_3)_2$, $C(CF_3)_2$, SO, $SO_2$, CO;

$Z_6$ and $Z_7$ independently of one another are $CH_2$, $CHCH_3$ or $C(CH_3)_2$;

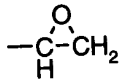
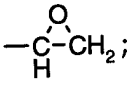
r is 0, 1 or 2;

s is a number from 1 to 12;

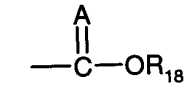
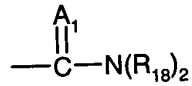
q is a number from 0 to 50;

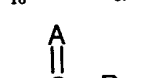
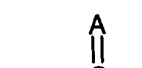
t and p are each a number from 0 to 20;

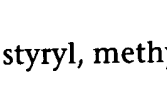
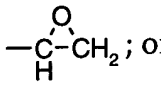
E, G, $G_3$ and $G_4$ independently of one another are unsubstituted $C_1$-$C_{12}$alkyl or $C_1$-$C_{12}$alkyl substituted by halogen, or are unsubstituted phenyl or phenyl substituted by one or more $C_1$-$C_4$alkyl; or are $C_2$-$C_{12}$alkenyl;

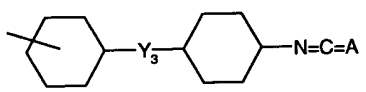
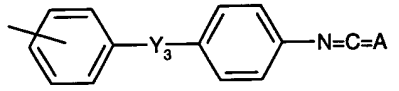
$R_{11a}$ is $C_1$-$C_{20}$alkyl substituted once or more than once by $OR_{15}$ or  ; or is $C_2$-$C_{20}$alkyl which is interrupted once or more than once by nonconsecutive O atoms and is unsubstituted or substituted once or more than once by $OR_{15}$, halogen or  ; or $R_{11a}$ is $C_2$-$C_{20}$alkenyl, $C_3$-$C_{12}$alkynyl; or $R_{11a}$ is $C_3$-$C_{12}$cycloalkenyl which is substituted once or more than once by halogen, $NO_2$, $C_1$-$C_6$alkyl, $OR_{11}$ or $C(O)OR_{18}$; or $C_7$-$C_{16}$arylalkyl or $C_8$-$C_{16}$arylcycloalkyl;

$R_{14}$ is hydrogen, phenyl, $C_1$-$C_{12}$alkoxy, $C_1$-$C_{12}$alkyl or $C_2$-$C_{12}$alkyl which is interrupted once or more than once by O or S and which is unsubstituted or substituted by OH and/or SH;

$R_{15}$ has one of the meanings given for $R_{11}$ or is a radical  ,  or  ;

$R_{16}$ and $R_{17}$ independently of one another have one of the meanings given for $R_{12}$ or are a radical  ,  or  ;

$R_{18}$ is hydrogen, $C_1$-$C_{24}$alkyl, $C_2$-$C_{12}$alkenyl, $C_3$-$C_8$cycloalkyl, phenyl, benzyl; $C_2$-$C_{20}$alkyl which is interrupted once or more than once by O or S and which is unsubstituted or substituted by OH; $R_{18a}$ and $R_{18b}$ independently of one another are hydrogen; $C_1$-$C_{20}$alkyl, which is substituted once or more than once by $OR_{15}$, halogen, styryl, methylstyryl, -N=C=A or  ; or $C_2$-$C_{20}$alkyl, which is interrupted once or more than once by nonconsecutive O atoms and which is unsubstituted or substituted once or more than once by $OR_{15}$, halogen, styryl, methylstyryl or  ; or $R_{18a}$ and $R_{18b}$ are $C_2$-$C_{12}$alkenyl; $C_5$-$C_{12}$cycloalkyl, which is substituted by -N=C=A or -$CH_2$-N=C=A and is additionally unsubstituted or substituted by one or more $C_1$-$C_4$alkyl; or $R_{18a}$ and $R_{18b}$ are $C_6$-$C_{12}$aryl, unsubstituted or substituted once or more than once by halogen, $NO_2$, $C_1$-$C_6$alkyl, $C_2$-$C_4$alkenyl, $OR_{11}$, -N=C=A, -$CH_2$-N=C=A or C(O)$OR_{18}$; or $R_{18a}$ and $R_{18b}$ are $C_7$-$C_{16}$arylalkyl; or $R_{18a}$ and $R_{18b}$ together are $C_8$-$C_{16}$arylcycloalkyl; or $R_{18a}$ and $R_{18b}$ independently of one another are

 or  ;

$Y_3$ is O, S, SO, $SO_2$, $CH_2$, $C(CH_3)_2$, $CHCH_3$, $C(CF_3)_2$, (CO), or a direct bond;

$R_{19}$, $R_{20}$, $R_{21}$, $R_{22}$ and $R_{23}$ independently of one another are hydrogen, $C_1$-$C_{20}$alkyl; $C_2$-$C_{20}$alkyl, which is interrupted once or more than once by nonconsecutive O atoms and which is unsubstituted or substituted by OH and/or SH; or $R_{19}$, $R_{20}$, $R_{21}$, $R_{22}$ and $R_{23}$ are $OR_{11}$, $SR_{11}$, $N(R_{12})(R_{13})$, $NO_2$, CN, $SO_2R_{24}$, $OSO_2R_{24}$, $CF_3$, $CCl_3$, halogen; or phenyl which is unsubstituted or substituted once or more than once by $C_1$-$C_4$alkyl or $C_1$-$C_4$alkoxy;

or in each case two of the radicals $R_{19}$, $R_{20}$, $R_{21}$, $R_{22}$ and $R_{23}$ together form $C_1$-$C_{20}$alkylene which is uninterrupted or interrupted by O, S or -$NR_{14}$;

$R_{24}$ is $C_1$-$C_{12}$alkyl, halogen-substituted $C_1$-$C_{12}$alkyl, phenyl, or phenyl substituted by $OR_{11}$ and/or $SR_{11}$;

with the proviso that $R_6$ and $Z_1$ are not identical,

as photoinitiator.